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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1 REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1

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25X1

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25X1 1. Johannes Koenig, editor in chief of the Sächsische Zeitung, is to be appointed
 Ambassador from East Germany to the Communist government of China. Koenig is
 25X1 a Communist of long standing, who is said to have been in exile in Shanghai dur-
 25X1 ing the Nazi régime. One of his fellow exiles in Shanghai, Walter Scholl, is to
 25X1 be commercial attaché in Shanghai. Scholl is an official in the Berliner Handels-
 kontor, and was previously in the employ of the Trustee Administration under Willy
 Rumpf.

2. Firtz Grosse, the head of the State Control Commission in Saxony, is to be the
 East German Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. Kurt Erben, an official in the Deutsche
 Aussehandelsgesellschaft, will go to Warsaw as commercial attaché, instead of
 Bruno Baum, who was recently made the chief of the Economy Department of East
 Berlin.

25X1 3.

4. East Germany is in process of concluding a cultural agreement with Hungary. It
 is understood that the agreement will provide for a number of channels whereby
 Hungary will gain access to East German cultural, educational, and scientific
 institutions; but there is no indication of any reciprocal concessions by Hungary
 to Germany.

5. The Ministry for Internal Trade, headed by Josef Orlopp, is negotiating an agree-
 ment with Poland whereby machinery and steel (quantities not known) to be obtained
 25X1 under the East-West trade agreement are to be transshipped di-
 rectly to Poland. In exchange the Poles will deliver foodstuffs to East Germany.

6. Hermann Grosse, head of the Administration for Machine Construction, has procured
 a new Buick sedan for the Horch Works. The vehicle is to be disassembled there
 for purposes of study. Grosse is reported to have said that East Germany will
 produce a motor vehicle of the Buick class for export. He is also procuring a
 new Nash for the same purpose.

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-2-

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8. Rudi Engel, who was supplanted by Gerhard Eisler as chief of the Office of Information, is now serving as president of the East German Academy of Arts.

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